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May 8, 2007

The Honorable Brian Baird  
Chairman, Research Subcommittee  
Committee on Science and Technology  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2320 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

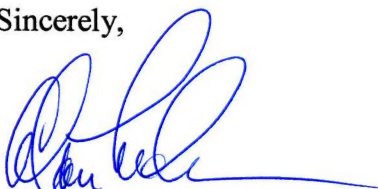
Dear Chairman Baird:

On behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, I would like to thank you for your leadership in the recent passage of the reauthorization for the National Science Foundation (NSF) on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives last week. We are especially grateful for your efforts to oppose the amendments to prohibit funding for specific NSF peer-reviewed research grants.

Attempts to challenge the peer review process can only harm the progress of science and the unique role that NSF has played for over 50 years in supporting basic research across the spectrum of scientific disciplines. We applaud your efforts to champion the freedom of scientific inquiry.

AAAS looks forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Alan I. Leshner

cc: Jim Wilson  
Dahlia Sokolov